



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC

Docket No. CP14-522-000

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED
SALEM LATERAL PROJECT

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) for the Salem Lateral Project, proposed by Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC (Algonquin) in the above-referenced docket. Algonquin requests authorization to construct approximately 1.2 miles of pipeline in the city of Salem, Massachusetts in order to provide 115,000 dekatherms of natural gas per day to the Salem Harbor Station natural gas-fired power plant. Footprint Power Salem Harbor Development, LP (Footprint) intends to replace the existing coal-fired electric generation facility with a natural gas-fired facility.

The EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the Salem Lateral Project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The FERC staff concludes that approval of the proposed project, with appropriate mitigating measures, would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The New England Division of Army Corps of Engineers (COE) participated as a cooperating agency in the preparation of the EA. Cooperating agencies have jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to resources potentially affected by a proposal and participate in the NEPA analysis. The COE intends to adopt and use the EA to support issuance of their Section 404 and Section 10 permit authorizations.

The proposed Salem Lateral Project includes the following facilities:

- Approximately 1.2 miles of new 16-inch-diameter lateral pipeline (Salem Lateral); and
- A new metering and flow regulating (M&R) station (Salem Lateral M&R Station) on Footprint's property.

The FERC staff mailed copies of the EA to federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; Native American tribes; potentially affected landowners and other interested individuals and groups; newspapers and libraries in the Project area; and parties to this proceeding. In addition, the EA is available for public viewing on the FERC's website (www.ferc.gov) using the eLibrary link. A limited number of copies of the EA are available for distribution and public inspection at:

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Public Reference Room
888 First Street NE, Room 2A
Washington, DC 20426
(202) 502-8371

Any person wishing to comment on the EA may do so. Your comments should focus on the potential environmental effects, reasonable alternatives, and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impacts. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. To ensure that the Commission has the opportunity to consider your comments prior to making its decision on this project, it is important that we receive your comments in Washington, DC on or before **January 9, 2015**.

For your convenience, there are three methods you can use to file your comments with the Commission. In all instances please reference the project Docket Number (CP14-522-000) with your submission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has expert staff available to assist you at 202-502-8258 or efiling@ferc.gov.

- (1) You can file your comments electronically using the [eComment](#) feature located on the Commission's website (www.ferc.gov) under the link to [Documents and Filings](#). This is an easy method for submitting brief, text-only comments on a project;
- (2) You can also file your comments electronically using the [eFiling](#) feature on the Commission's website (www.ferc.gov) under the link to [Documents and Filings](#). With eFiling, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file with your submission. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on "[eRegister](#)." You must select the type of filing you are making. If you are filing a comment on a particular project, please select "Comment on a Filing"; or

- (3) You can file a paper copy of your comments by mailing them to the following address:

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE, Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.214).¹ Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision. The Commission grants affected landowners and others with environmental concerns intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which no other party can adequately represent. **Simply filing environmental comments will not give you intervenor status, but you do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.**

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at **(866) 208-FERC**, or on the FERC website (www.ferc.gov) using the eLibrary link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on "General Search," and enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field (*i.e.*, CP14-522). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. Go to www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp.

Dated: December 2, 2014

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

¹ See the previous discussion on the methods for filing comments.

[FR Doc. 2014-28755 Filed 12/08/2014 at 8:45 am; Publication Date: 12/09/2014]